

Alternative Assessments for Mainstream Programs

By JOHN KUZMICH, JR.



Dr. Kuzmich is a nationally-known music educator with more than 30 years of teaching experience. He has certification from TI:ME (Technology Institute for Music Educators) to serve as a training instructor throughout the country. His academic background also includes a Ph.D. in comprehensive musicianship.

As a freelance author, he has more than 250 articles and five textbooks published. As a clinician, Dr. Kuzmich frequently participates in workshops throughout the U.S. and several foreign countries. For more information, visit his Web site: www.kuzmich.com.

In our continuing coverage of how music technology is improving music education, we'll take a look at a remarkable innovation in the state of Washington: the Classroom-Based Performance Assessments (CBPA). Because music, dance, theater and visual arts are core subject areas in Washington, per state and federal law, all schools will annually report student progress in the Arts at grades 5, 8, and 10 beginning with the 2008-2009 school year. The CBPA were developed as state approved resources to be used in this process. Washington is leading the nation in developing a systemic structure to sustain, support, implement, grow, assess, and celebrate arts education.

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has developed an impressive Web site to share the Arts CBPA and other methods used to measure and report student achievement in the arts. The Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALR) standards indicate what Washington teachers want students to know and be able to do. The CBPA measures what needs to be learned, taught, and whether those goals are being achieved. Educators see what their students know and are able to do, and can modify each student's needs. Teachers of the Arts have been being trained in multiple ways to use the CBPA with their students since 2003, in preparation for 2008.

The CBPA music assessment differs from others because it is based on individual and solo performance rather than paper-and-pencil tests about music. Students are actually assessed on what they do in class by creating music, including composing on electronic keyboards and computers.

The music portion of the CBPA, where the Beethoven and Mozart assessment curriculums were presented, was discussed in the July, 2007 issue of *SBO*. Please refer to that article entitled "Mainstream Music Technology with Performance Classes" for a look at how the CBPA works for music in the Bellevue, Wash. School District.

cheesecakes, Homemade Holidays gifts, Hershey's candy bars, magazines and imprinted cards, flowers/bulbs and candles.

Perkins Distributors
www.ilovefundraising.com

Perkins Distributors has both direct sales fundraising and order taker fundraising, with products such as chocolate, scratch cards, candy, snacks, car washes, jewelry & gifts, plush toys, flower bulbs, and discount cards.

Pride Distributors
www.fundraiser.com/pride-distributors-inc/now.html

Pride Distributors offers board games based on the popular game Monopoly that can be customized to individual towns – "Your Town"-Opoly. The streets and utilities on the board game are replaced by advertisements from local merchants and the games can be sold to members of the community.

Profit Potentials
www.profitpotentials.com

Profit Potentials offers a wide selection of products, such as candies, frozen food, greenery, first-aid kits, fire extinguishers, dishcloths, planners, and patriotic, holiday and religious gifts, etc.

Rada Mfg. Co.
www.radamfg.com

Rada Manufacturing offers fundraising opportunities through its catalog of American-made cutlery. The catalog contains more than 100 items, including kitchen knives, utensils, gift sets, cookbooks, stoneware and soy wax candles.

Software Outlet
www.softwareoutlet.com

The Software Outlet produces a print catalog specifically for fundraising programs, offering hundreds of brand-name software programs – both educational applications and games.

Sportdecal
www.sportdecal.com

Sportdecal's custom-printed fundraising items for bands, boosters and

supporters include caps, towels, buttons, blankets, stickers, spirit flags, banners, signs and more.

Yankee Candle Company
www.gbimarketing.com

GBI Marketing offers a wide range of Yankee Candle products in varying sizes and price ranges for fundraising groups. The candles, which are contained in glass, are packaged in gift boxes, shrink-wrapped or packaged in foam trays for protection from damage.

Going Green

Creative Garden Concepts
www.instantflowergarden.com

Creative Garden Concepts presents garden-ready flowers via Biomat – 1/8-inch thick seeded mats that sandwich seeds between two layers of wood fiber mulch. Fifteen varieties of flower gardens are available, including morning glories, sunflowers, marigolds, a shade-loving flower ring, a butterfly garden and a patriotic garden.

Doornbosch Bros.
www.hollandmagic.com

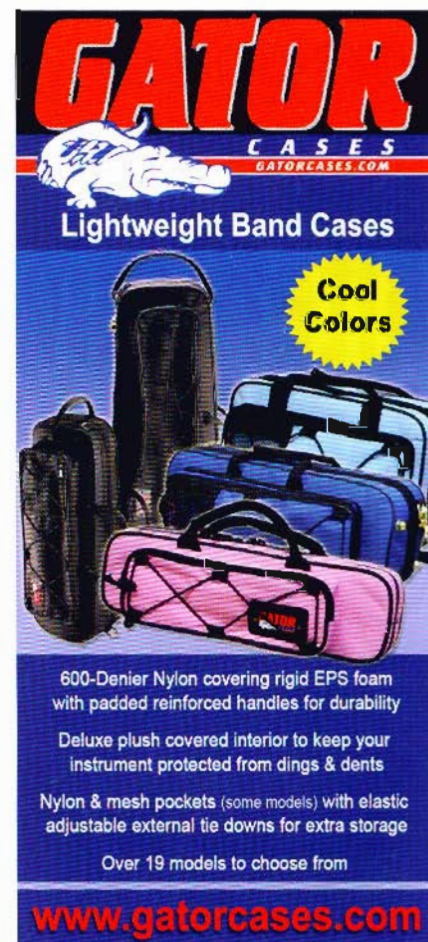
Doornbosch Bros. have been "Fundraising with Flower Bulbs" imported from Holland since 1949. The "Blooming Collection" includes daffodils, tulips, hyacinths and mixtures of the three. The "Bulb Collection" has 180 varieties from which to choose, including anemone, tulips, daffodils, irises, narcissi and crocuses.

Dutch Mill Bulbs Inc.
www.dutchmillbulbs.com

Dutch Mill Bulbs, in business for more than 40 years, has two flower and bulb fundraising programs – one in the spring (available March 15 – June 1) and one in the fall (available Sept. 15 – Dec. 1). All bulbs are imported from Holland and are guaranteed to bloom or free replacement.

Mickman Brothers
www.mickman.com

The Mickman Brothers' seven-step fundraising program includes evergreen wreaths, evergreen garland, centerpieces, door ornaments and live, decorated, tabletop Christmas trees (nursery-grown dwarf Alberta spruce).



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The CBPA encourage teachers to be creative, utilizing its methods, philosophies, resources, courses, and teachers' own personal strengths. This type of flexibility and creativity motivates instructors to think and teach "outside the box" of traditional instruction. The process involves composing a short melody, performing a pre-selected piece or sight-reading, and responding in writing to a music sample. Students using music notation technology demonstrate their understanding of music fundamentals. The quick playback of their music creations is incredibly motivating.

The Washington State OSPI Arts Assessment Web site includes additional information, resources and links (www.k12.wa.us/assessment/WASU/Arts/), and the 15 music CBPAs are clearly marked in lilac (www.k12.wa.us/assessment/WASU/Arts/CBPAsentireset.aspx).

Assessments are administered within the regular classroom setting. Each evaluation option contains a complete packet of information, including guidelines for administering the CBPA, student task booklets, and rubrics for scoring. Teachers have the flexibility to use the CBPA as formative, summative, "end of course," Senior Project, Advanced Placement, or high school graduation

Washington
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Dr. Terry Bergeson

Assessment

The Arts Classroom-Based Performance Assessments (CBPAs)
Full and Limited Training Sets & Single Task Items

- Full Training Sets
- Limited Training Sets
- Single Task Items
- Entire Set (by Arts Discipline)
- Resources and Documents
- Arts CBPA District Coordinator Directions for Administration

Arts Assessment Resources and Documents

- 2006-07 Calendar (featuring art show winners) - download and print (pdf)
- Arts Education and CTE (pdf)
- Arts Assessment Journey in Progress Document (pdf)
- Arts Assessment Leadership Team (Word)
- Arts Assessment Training Presentation (pdf) Read Only
- Arts Education is Academic (pdf)
- Arts Education Partnership
- Arts Education Poster 2006-07 - download and print (pdf)
- Arts Education Reform Timeline in Washington State (Word)
- Arts Education: Improving Students Academic Performance - US DOE video, Mar. 15, 2005
 - RealPlayer 28kbps (modem speed); RealPlayer 150kbps (network speed)
 - WindowsMedia 28kbps (modem speed); WindowsMedia 150kbps (network speed)
- Arts Essential Academic Learning Requirements
- Education Commission of the States
- Glossary

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requirement exams. The time needed to take the CBPA is taken into account so flexible guidelines allow teachers to tailor the CBPA to their students and schedules.

Rubrics measure the "artistic cre-

"CBPA give valuable information about what is missing in the education processes."

ative process" of creating, performing and responding. This design is unique to the Washington CBPA, and celebrates how the arts are taught, following the MENC Schuler design. CBPA measure students individually, which is important because Washington is now testing actual student achievement as it aligns with the state's standards for the Arts. Students may sound great in ensembles, but the state wants to know what each child is learning through performance, and CBPA provide that information.

DVDs with performing arts student samples are available from the Wash-

ington OSPI Arts Program. Many of us already have performing tests, but CBPA allow teachers to measure student learning beyond scales or challenging passages from their repertoire.

CBPA that focus on composition or sight-reading, for example, can let you know how well students understand the concepts of music theory or how well they process skills and understanding of music notation.

When groups perform, the audience or adjudicators hear the entire ensemble. But we need to remember that the group is composed of individuals and, as such, it benefits when all the individuals are competent. CBPA help to identify and assist individuals who may need more instruction and mentoring.

CBPA give valuable information about what is missing in the education processes. Teaching "outside the box" of rehearsal-for-public-performance lets students become better musicians

and educators become better teachers. Music software can make a significant contribution to this creative process because it takes students beyond paper and pencil with immediate feedback, as I have discussed in previous articles in SBO.

Washington Shines

At its core, CBPA guide students to become conceptually acquainted with their music environment in alignment with state standards. At the same time, students are developing a "love for music" through creating, performing, and composing music, with teacher instruction in the performance-oriented classroom. To date, 60 Classroom-Based Performance Assessments have been developed. These include 15 in each arts discipline of music, dance, theatre and visual arts; five for each benchmark in grades 5, 8, and 10. This information can be found online (www.k12.wa.us/assessment/WASL/Arts/CBPAentireset.aspx).

Any district, school, or teacher that wishes to use CBPA outside of Washington must request permission from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, as the items are copyrighted. Several CBPA items were recently revised and some new items added based on feedback from teachers, students and others. These will be online for use by January, 2008.

The Cook's Tour

The cook's tour begins with Washington's OSPI Web site (www.k12.wa.us/). Look at the Curriculum/Instruction and the Assessment pull-down menus found by touching the top bar. For an introduction to their commitment to Arts, as well as information about the curriculum, go to: www.k12.wa.us/CurriculumInstruction/Arts/default.aspx. Reading down the page, there is important information below all the artwork and introduction material. Links on the left sidebar column include key information, such as state and federal law and policy, state standards, assessments, frameworks, resources, and links, and professional development. Scroll down and check out the Elementary Disciplines, Sec-



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ondary Disciplines and Frameworks by Grade Level for some impressive information regarding arts instruction for all learners.

There is also a 27-page document entitled: "Arts Assessment in Washington: Classroom-Based Performance Assessment - The Journey in Progress" (www.k12.wa.us/assessment/WASL/Arts/publicdocs/ArtsAssessmentsJourney.pdf), which is a great resource for understanding the entire CBPA project from its inception in 2003. If you'd like to see the results from this program check out the national Arts Education Partnership (AEP) Policy Database and Database Results for Washington (www.aep-arts.org/database/ and www.aep-arts.org/database/results2.htm?select_state_id=36). On this Web site, you can search by state to see how the rest of the country is developing leadership in music education and the arts.

Grade Level Expectations are currently being developed for publication in 2009 (www.k12.wa.us/curriculumInstruct/Arts/GLEs.aspx), as well as Essential Academic Learning Requirements (www.k12.wa.us/CurriculumInstruct/Arts/EALRs/EALRs.aspx). Both of these sites give a view of the engine that drives this assessment project.

My favorite poster, which presents a great summary of the entire project, is also available online (www.k12.wa.us/CurriculumInstruct/Arts/publicdocs/ArtElementsPrinciplesPosterEdition2RevAug06.pdf).

A Musical Journey in Progress

All of this creative instruction is made possible because Arts education is a core academic subject area in the state of Washington. Additionally, computers and Sibelius software assist a quality staff of teachers in Bellevue, Wash. and throughout many other districts in the state to meet local expectations for students in music.

Through the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the dynamic leadership by their program supervisor for the Arts, Ms. AnnRené Joseph, the CBPA were created by Washington arts teachers to make more arts happen for their students, and to

celebrate the way that instructors teach Arts through the process of creating, performing, and responding. Kudos to AnnRené and her Arts Assessment Leadership Team, who are the authors of the Classroom-Based Performance Assessments and to the over 200 school districts and 1,000 arts educators for providing the OSPI with over 350,000 student samples of this work for implementation, which is evident on the Web sites included in this article.

AnnRené shares that, "The Arts CBPA make more arts happen wherever they are given. Teachers and students are validated for their strengths, talents, skills, and love for and in the Arts. Students are the stars! They get a few minutes to shine for their teachers during the CBPA and they love it. The implementation of the CBPA makes more arts happen in the lives of those who take them, by developing more arts (and music) classes that are needed and insuring arts education in all districts for success in the Arts. Additionally, the CBPA utilize technology

as the transparent tool that includes all learners in multiple ways."

For more information, the article "More Arts," by AnnRené Joseph can be found online (www.newhorizons.org/strategies/arts/joseph_2.htm).

Thank you to Pam Schroeder of the Bellevue, Wash. School District and AnnRené Joseph, program supervisor for the Arts from the state of Washington for sharing information and resources about the great progress taking place in music education in Washington. If you know of good things happening with music technology, feel free to shout it out at jkuzmich@earthlink.net.

For additional music education articles, please visit the School Band and Orchestra archives at: www.sbomagazine.com/sbomag/sbomags.html



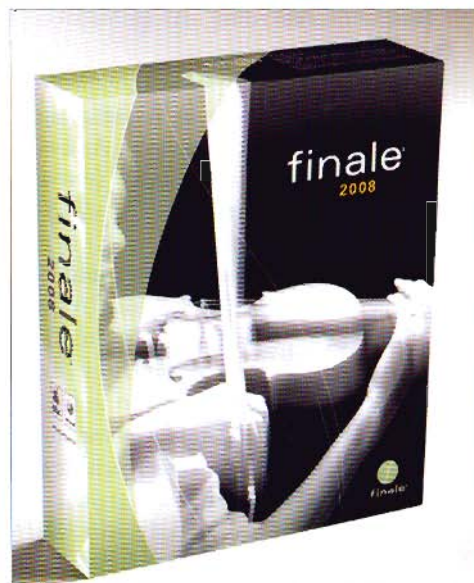
NewProducts

Finale 2008

MakeMusic, Inc. is now shipping Finale® 2008. The latest upgrade is said to offer unprecedented playback options, major productivity enhancements and even more control. A few of the additions found in Finale 2008 include:

- Finale can record/import a mono or stereo audio file to enhance playback.
- Now more than 250 world-class Garritan instrument sounds are included.
- Finale's interface has been streamlined to be more efficient, intuitive and consistent, particularly in the area of cut/copy/paste/insert.
- Document Styles can instantly personalize the appearance of new documents, controlling text and music fonts, all libraries, text, graphics and page layout.
- Enhanced Setup Wizard offers more options and control and provides intelligent page layout to reduce white space on the page.
- Colored noteheads can be automatically configured to appear on specific pitches and to play back integrated Boomwhackers tuned percussion tube sounds.

www.finalemusic.com



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The Avedis Zildjian Co. has introduced a new line of cymbals named for the man who helped guide Zildjian into the 21st Century. The Armand Zildjian Cymbal Series includes nine new models and is based on the 19-inch Armand "Beautiful Baby" Ride. This series includes 20 and 21-inch Rides, 16 and 18-inch Medium Thin and Thin Crashes, 13 and 14-inch HiHats and a 10-inch Splash. All are available in a Traditional finish.

The new Armand Series is part of the "A Zildjian" range of cymbals, but offers its own unique characteristics. New shaping techniques create a slightly lower profile than the current A Zildjians and help to offer a warm and smooth blend of overtones. Lighter weight specifications are said to promote a faster cymbal response with lower pitched overtones without loss of projection potential, and a tighter lathe pattern on the top of each model results in a unique feel.

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